

B- 4099

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

**1. Name**historic Brewers Exchangeand/or common Murdock Place**2. Location**street & number 20 Park Avenue n/a not for publicationcity, town Baltimore n/a vicinity of Seventh congressional districtstate Maryland code 24 county independent city code 510**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**name David H. Murdock, Murdock Development Companystreet & number 20 Park Avenuecity, town Baltimore n/a vicinity of Maryland state 21201**5. Location of Legal Description**courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthousestreet & number Calvert Streetcity, town Baltimore state Maryland 21202**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**title Maryland Historical Trust  
Historic Sites Inventoryhas this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ nodate 1984 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ localdepository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circlecity, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

## 7. Description

B-4099

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved date n/a

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### Number of Resources

##### Contributing

1

0

0

0

1

##### Noncontributing

0 buildings

0 sites

0 structures

0 objects

0 Total

#### Number of previously listed

##### National Register properties

included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions  
and uses: commercial

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

This three story Renaissance Revival style building at the southwest corner of Park Avenue and Fayette Street was built in 1896 as the Brewers' Exchange. The symmetrical main Park Avenue facade faces east and is five structural bays wide and one structural bay deep. Each ground floor bay features a single large full-story arched opening except the center bay which contains a pedimented double doorway. Two arches equal in size to those of the main facade occur on the ground floor of the Fayette Street facade. The entire ground floor of these two facades is faced with terra-cotta and a rusticated stone course at the base of the piers between arches. The upper floors are brick with elaborate terra-cotta decoration including two story half-round Ionic pilasters, cartouches, pediments, window surrounds, a garland frieze and a balustrade at the edges of a flat roof. The south and west facades are typical common brick faced party walls. Both Park Avenue and Fayette Street facades had been painted at least twice and possibly three times prior to the 1984 painting. Interiors of the second and third floor have been substantially altered since original construction with nothing of historical significance remaining. The ground floor with 17' 6" ceiling height features an original elaborate pilaster cornice with a continuous guilloche design defining each of the five bays. Six slender Neo-Egyptian cast iron columns with gilded capitals (traces of original gilding remained under layers of paint) support ceiling beams. The ground floor is one single open space. An original wooden stair and an elevator (first cab installed in 1905) occupy a small protruding bay at the southwest corner of the building. A second stair was added in 1984 to comply with fire code regulations.

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Continuation sheet Brewers Exchange  
Baltimore City, Maryland

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Above the ground floor, the north and south bays of the Park Avenue facade are framed with two story terra-cotta capped brick pilasters. Single, large, one-over-one, double glazed wood sash windows installed in 1984 and reproducing the original design occur at the second floor of these bays. Terra-cotta window surrounds consist of beading and elaborate foliate designs of oak leaves, acorns, grapes and grape leaves. These motifs are terminated at the upper corners by square rosettes and at the center point above the window by large leaf bordered concave scallop shells. This window surround is typical for all windows on the second and third floors of the Park Avenue and Fayette Street facades. In addition to the window surrounds, each of these large second floor windows has an arched or curved pediment matching in detail the triangular pediment over the main entrance. Paired one-over-one wood sash windows occur on the third floor of these bays. Adjacent to the sills of these windows is a terra-cotta belting course continuous on both facades and interrupted where pilaster occur. An identical treatment of window size, configuration and decoration to that of each of these north and south bays of the Park Avenue facade occurs above each of the ground floor arched openings on the Fayette Street facade.

The second and third floors of the three central bays of the Park Avenue facade are recessed. These three bays are divided into five symmetrical sub-bays by four Ionic half-round pilasters. Each of the five bays features a one-over-one wood sash window on the second floor and matching window on the third. A rectangular terra-cotta panel occurs between the second and third floor windows in each of the five bays. Four of these panels feature a beaded frame centering an elaborate oval medallion surrounded by intricate floral and acanthus leaf motifs. In the center panel the oval medallion has been replaced by an acanthus leaf wreath encircling the initials "BE."

The building is capped by an elaborate frieze, dentil cornice and terra-cotta balustrade. The lower border of the frieze consists of alternating rosettes and lotus shaped leaf clusters; immediately above is a band of spiraling leaves. The main frieze consists of elaborate garland swags comprised of various fruits, leaves and acorns alternating with classical fruit filled urns. A dentil cornice occurs above this. The original terra-cotta dentil segments remain but the cornice moldings, perhaps originally metal, are no longer present. Terra-cotta blocks with recessed rectangular panels intersect the balustrade at points immediately above the pilasters. The individual double-bellied balusters feature acanthus leaves on both the upper and lower sections. Above the center bay the balustrade gives way to a rectangular panel and monogrammed cartouche featuring a large "B" in an oval crest surrounded by an open floral wreath, volutes and radiating acanthus leaves. Above this is a terra-cotta based flagpole with the date "1896" in a rectangular panel bordered with beading and egg and dart motifs. A new flagpole closely approximates the height of the original.

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Continuation sheet Brewers Exchange Item number 7 Page 2  
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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The three story Brewer's Exchange faces east and is five structural bays wide and one structural bay deep. Each ground floor bay features a single large arched opening except for the center bay which contains the main entrance to the brick and terra-cotta building. All terra-cotta used on the building was manufactured by the New York Architectural Terra-Cotta Company. Alternating flush and recessed terra-cotta blocks comprise the voussoirs and spandrel infill as well as the piers. Each pier rests on a single rough hewn stone block. The keystone of each arch is in the form of a large terra-cotta corbel which visually supports a plain projecting terra-cotta belting course between the first and second stories. The sides of these "S" shaped corbels feature rosettes and guilloches while the fronts reveal a stylized scale pattern of overlapping circles. The arch windows consist of three lights above and below a single wide horizontal divide at the springline of the arch. Polished black granite panels added in 1984 form the base of the arch opening. The original material for these panels appears to be wood in early photographs but within thirty years was completely replaced with metal and subsequently tile. The granite replacement panels repeat the design of the original panels in a material that will withstand the abuses of both sidewalk and street traffic.

The ground floor of the Fayette Street facade presents two arched openings identical in size and design to those of the Park Avenue facade. The first light of the east arch on the Fayette Street facade has been replaced with a handicapped entrance. The design of this entrance, single wood door with full length glass panel and glass transom above repeats that of an original entrance in the center of this arch. A similar entrance in the first segment of the south arch of the Park Avenue facade provides a code required egress door.

Original rough cut brownstone building cheeks frame three steps and a landing leading to the recessed double door entrance in the center bay of the Park Avenue facade. The door surround, recessed vestibule panels and triangular pediment are all executed in terra-cotta. The facade door framing consists of successive bands of beading, foliate scroll work and egg and dart designs. A plain horizontal panel which once displayed "Brewers' Exchange" separates the door surround from the elaborate pediment with floral banding and similar floral and beaded design motifs centering an oval scrolling crest with radiating acanthus leaves in the tympanum. New double wood doors with single full height glass lights and single light transom repeat the design and material of the originals. The original over-sized brass hinges with etched floral designs have been used to hang these doors.

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Brewers Exchange  
Continuation sheet Baltimore City, Maryland Item number 7 Page 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The south and west facades are typical common brick faced party walls. A large stucco patch on the south wall shows the outline of an earlier adjacent building which has been demolished. A pair of one-over-one wood sash windows occurs on the second floor of this facade. These windows are individually the same size as the second floor windows in the exterior bays of the Park Avenue facade. Four additional openings in the south facade have been bricked in. All of these appear to be of later origin as all are of different sizes with three different lintel and sill types. None of these openings aligns either vertically or horizontally or seems related to any other feature of the building.

On the interior of the single open space of the ground floor each of the five structural bays is defined by ceiling beams and an elaborate plaster cornice. As much as 70% of the original plaster work survived with only minor repairs required. The additional segments were reproduced in 1984 from molds made from the original work. This cornice features a flat center section parallel to the ceiling plane and is comprised of a double guilloche pattern with lotus designs at the intersection points and intermittent large rosettes. Six cast iron columns with gilded Neo-Egyptian capitals support the beams. Adjacent to the south wall is a 1984 fire-rated egress corridor and new handicapped restrooms are adjacent to the west wall. The ceilings of both of these additions line up with the horizontal divide at the springline of the arches in the facade thereby maintaining a fully open space above with no intrusion into the plaster cornice, beams or columns. Two boxed mechanical and plumbing stacks penetrate the corridor and restroom walls while maintaining the integrity of the space. A new fire rated stair of simple rectilinear design penetrates the middle bay without disturbing the cornice. No significant details or original work remained on the upper two floors now converted to offices.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates 1896 Builder/Architect Joseph Evans Sperry, Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C  
Applicable Exceptions: none  
Significance Evaluated: local

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Brewers Exchange in the retail section of Baltimore is a Renaissance Revival style building that is important for its architectural merit and for association with the commercial development of the city. Designed by Joseph Evans Sperry (1854-1930), one of Baltimore's leading architects at the turn of the century, the building is an excellent example of a type of commercial architecture erected in the city at the close of the nineteenth century when Baltimore ranked among the country's leading industrial cities and was experiencing rapid growth in population and commerce. The features which separate the Brewers Exchange architecturally from other Renaissance Revival buildings, particularly in the immediate surrounds, are the low horizontal nature of the plan and the elaborateness of detailing of particularly the upper levels. Much of the decoration which includes fluted columns with volute capitals, swag-motified cornice, and foliated panels and surrounds is executed in terra cotta. Erected as a center for negotiating commodities used by the brewing industry, the Brewers Exchange has association with this important aspect of Baltimore's history, though used by the exchange for only a short time.

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Continuation sheet Brewer's Exchange Baltimore City, Maryland Item number 8 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

In the final decades of the nineteenth century Baltimore continued to experience the economic prosperity that had characterized much of its history. One particular group of men, the ale and beer brewers, had made the city the national center for their trade and formed a strong economic liason patterned after those European guilds to which their fathers and grandfathers had belonged. The "Brewers' Exchange" required a specific place for negotiating the securities and commodities associated with the brewing industry. After years of meeting in the Manufacturers Record building, the exchange commissioned Joseph Evans Sperry in 1895 to design the Beaux Arts building on the corner of Park Avenue and Fayette Street. In addition to its functional utility the building was to serve as a visible metaphor for the prestigious national significance the local industry had achieved. Sperry (1854-1930) himself has garnered a national following through his outstanding work throughout the state. His contribution to the architectural history of Baltimore is enormous; work includes the old Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company building, the Equitable building, the Masonic Temple on North Charles Street ( in association with Charles L. Carson), the Provident Savings Bank building at Howard and Saratoga Streets, and Emerson Tower, often called the Bromo Seltzer Tower. Sperry turned to European sources for the 1896 Brewers' Exchange, now regarded as his finest building in both overall design and proportion. The quality of the terra-cotta ornamental work on this building is unsurpassed in Baltimore. After the consolidation of Baltimore's numerous independent breweries into only a few large companies during the decade that followed the construction of the Brewers' Exchange (seventeen of Baltimore's largest breweries were consolidated into a single firm in 1898), the organization sold the building in 1906 to the Mercantile Savings Bank. Since that time it has been home to the Kanabe Piano Company, a Ford dealership, an office supplies company and numerous other users. As the current headquarters of the Murdock Development Company the building has been returned to its original stately elegance.

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Brewers Exchange  
Continuation sheet Baltimore City, Maryland Item number 8 Page 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Joseph Evans Sperry (1854-1930) was from South Carolina but had moved to Baltimore at an early age. His enormous contribution to the city's architectural history includes some of its best known buildings. The firm of Wyatt and Sperry designed the Old Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company building, one of the city's outstanding Romanesque Revival structures. In association with Charles L. Carson, Sperry redesigned the Masonic Temple on North Charles Street. The master architect was responsible for the Equitable building (1894), long regarded as Baltimore's finest large commercial style building. It is interesting to note that Sperry used the same arches, rusticated stonework detailing and five bays to organize the ground floor of the main facade of this structure as he was to use on the Brewers' Exchange two years later. For the scale and bold design of the rusticated granite Provident Savings Bank building, with walls seven feet thick at the base, Sperry turned to Italian Renaissance palaces such as the Strozzi in Florence for inspiration. Surrounding the main entrance doors to this building is a band of boldly carved granite identical in every design feature, including lotuses and rosettes, to the elaborate plaster cornice of the ground floor ceiling in the Brewers' Exchange. It was to Italy that Sperry was to turn for more than inspiration in his design of the 1911 Emerson Tower, often called the Bromo Seltzer Tower and now the Baltimore Arts Tower. Long the most famous landmark on Baltimore's skyline, the Tower is patterned directly after that of the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence.

Sperry's fondness for architectural forms of the past appears to have guided his design of the east and north facades of the Brewers' Exchange. The building is five structural bays wide on Park Avenue and only one bay deep although Fayette Street facade has been divided into two bays. The ground floor, faced in terra-cotta, features a single large arched opening in each bay with the exception of the pedimented doorway in the center one. For the upper floors Sperry used brick with elaborate terra-cotta ornaments including Ionic pilasters, arched pediments, window surrounds, a superb garland frieze and roof balustrade. The terra-cotta base of the flagpole bears the date 1896 above a monogrammed cartouche showing a "B." Two separate issues, 1897 and 1899 of The Brickbuilder feature photographs of the building. One, a detail of the entrance doors, illustrates an editorial commendation of both Sperry and the New York Architectural Terra-Cotta Company, the firm responsible for executing Sperry's designs in terra-cotta. The second is an illustrated advertisement for the terra-cotta manufacturer.

No inventory exists of the books in Sperry's architectural library, but he was most likely familiar with a very popular 1867 source book by Joseph Gwilt, The Encyclopedia of Architecture. (An early edition, now in the private collection of a partner in the firm that was the continuation of Sperry's, originally belonged to Sperry's firm.) This edition provides an "historical,

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

theoretical, and practical" guide to architecture and included several plates of Europe's outstanding buildings. Among these was the 1632 facade of Somerset House by the English architect Inigo Jones. A derivation of Italian Renaissance styles, the facade by Jones<sup>1</sup> might well have been the model Sperry used in his plans for the Brewers' Exchange. The Park Avenue facade of Sperry's building is nearly identical to that of Jones in its scale, proportions, use of five bays, stonework and architectural ornamental detailing. The book provides an additional possible source for Sperry's detailing of the elaborate plaster interior cornice. Following a discussion of cornice treatments, the book illustrates five guilloche variations,<sup>2</sup> one of which is identical in every detail, including the lotus design, to that used by Sperry on both the Brewers' Exchange and the Provident Savings Bank.

In establishing a plan of action for the preservation of the Brewers' Exchange, the Murdock Development Company sought to create a contemporary work place while preserving those portions and features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural and cultural values. The north and east facades and the ground floor interior space were deemed to be of primary significance. Both facades were almost totally intact and most of the cornice and all of the columns survived beneath the numerous ceilings and wall partitions added over the years. The upper floors contained nothing of particular distinction. A search of both public and private archives produced various historic photographs and drawings of the building which subsequently served as the basis for the reconstruction of such details as arch windows and entrance doors. Once again the citizens of Baltimore can enjoy the richness of this historic structure. The rehabilitation was carried out under the provision of the Economic Recovery Act of 1980.

Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>Gwilt, Joseph; The Encyclopedia of Architecture; Book I, Chap. III, Fig. 208.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid. Book III, Chap. I, Fig. 1010.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Dorsey, John and Dilts, James; A Guide To Baltimore Architecture,  
1981 by Tidewater Publishers, Centreville, MD

Gwilt, Joseph; The Encyclopedia of Architecture, 1867 by Longmans and Green,  
London England.

Kelly, William J.; Brewing In Maryland From Colonial Times To the Present;  
1965, New York.

Baltimore City, The Liverpool of America, London England.

Architects and Builders Journal;        1901, Baltimore, MD

Baltimore City Directory: City of Baltimore 1896 (p.206), 1897 (p. 208),  
1899 (p. 209), 1900 (p. 213), 1901 (p. 220), 1902 (p. 240), 1903 (p. 358).  
Pratt Library, Baltimore

The Baltimore Sun; Nov. 26, 1895, p. 8, col 8, 1895, Baltimore, MD.

The Brickbuilder: V. 8, No. 5, May 1899 and V. VI No. 12, Dec. 1897  
by Rogers & Manson, Boston, MA.

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National Park Service

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date entered

Continuation sheet Brewers Exchange Item number 10 Page 8  
Baltimore City, Maryland

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning for the same at the corner formed by the intersection of the south side of Fayette Street and the west side of Park Avenue, and running thence westerly, bounding on the south side of Fayette Street, 36 feet 1¼ inches to a point where a line drawn along the westernmost outline of the wall there located of the building on the lot now being described intersects the said south side of Fayette Street; thence southerly, along the westernmost outline of said wall, 71 feet to the northernmost outline of the wall there situate of the building on the lot now being described; thence westerly, along the northernmost outline of said last mentioned partition wall, 12 feet 8½ inches to the point of intersection with the line drawn along the westernmost side of the brick wall standing on the lot now being described; thence southerly, along the said westernmost outline of said last mentioned wall and continuing the same course, in all, 20 feet 1 inch; thence easterly, by a straight line to a point on the west side of Park Avenue where the same is intersected by the northernmost line of the wall there situate of the building adjoining the building on the lot now being described to the south; thence northerly, bounding on the west side of Park Avenue, 91 feet 7½ inches to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification: The property includes only the city lot upon which the building stands.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 7

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Baltimore East, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

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3	6	10	4	14	10
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4	13	5	10	0	15	10
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Edward Perlman

organization Murdock Development Corporation date 19 October 1984

street & number 20 Park Avenue telephone (301) 837-0520

city or town Baltimore state Maryland 21201

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. M. Smith* 2-5-85

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

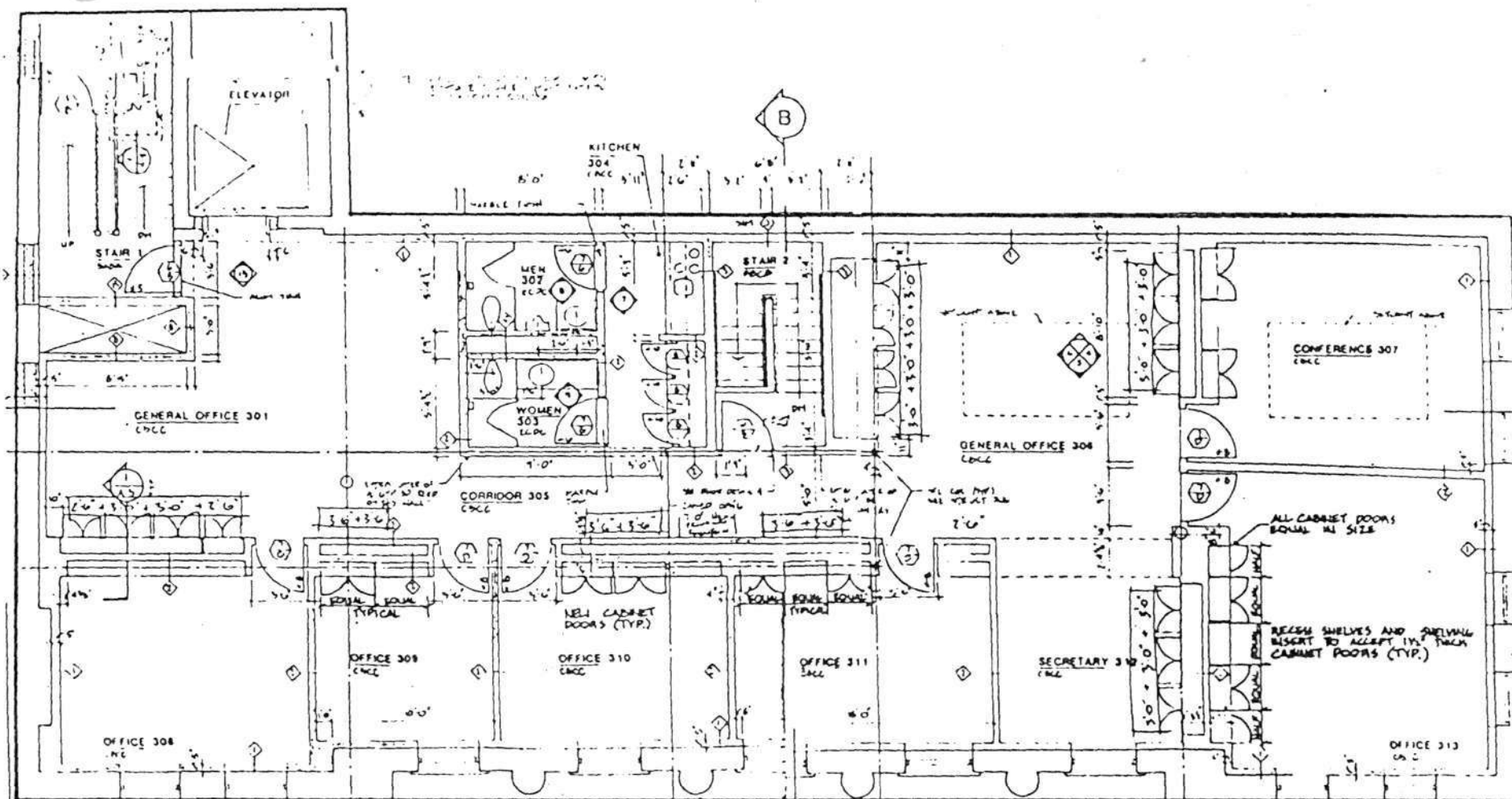
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



A-1096 MURDOCK PLACE  
9/21/83

CABINET DOORS FOR OFFICE  
SHELVING - THIRD FLOOR

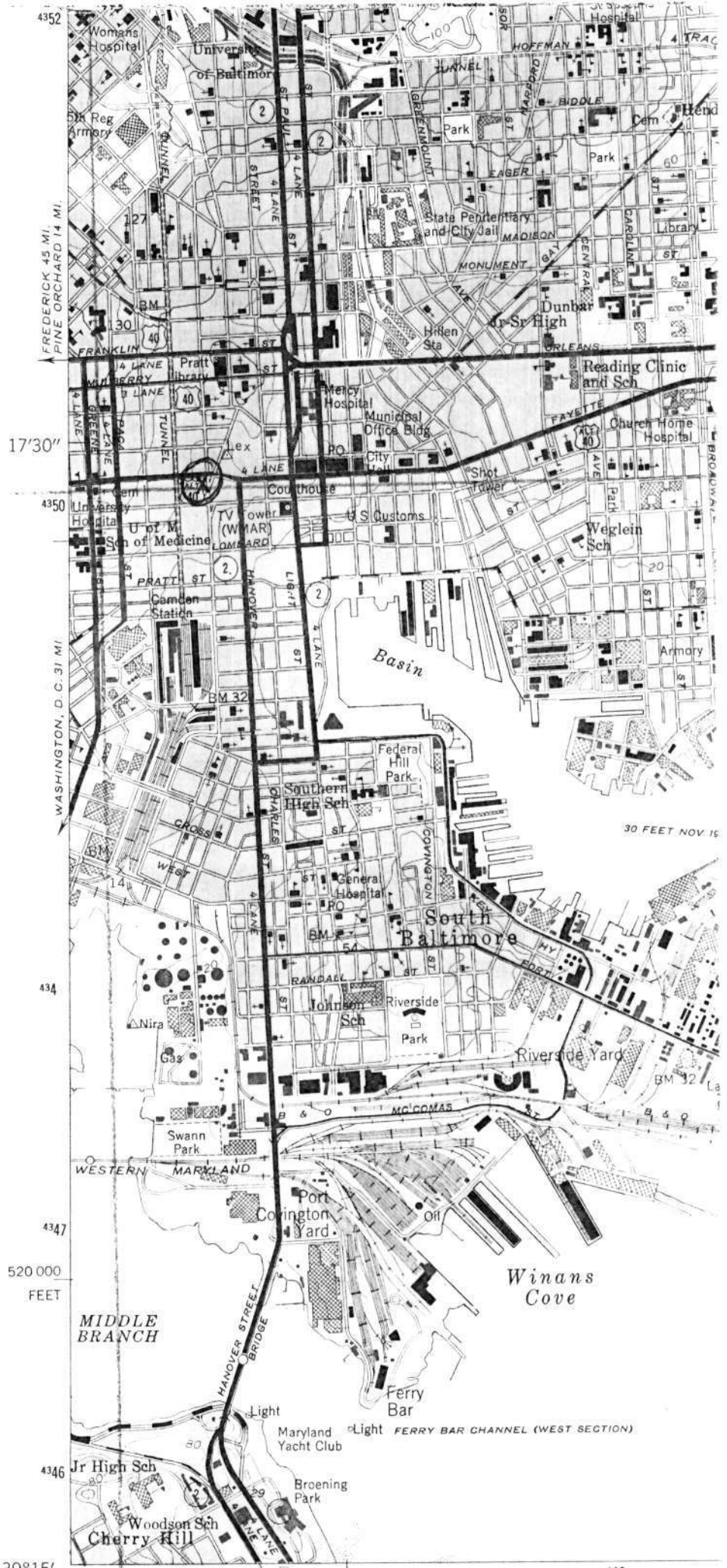
NOTE: 2ND FLOOR SAME AS THIRD  
1ST FLOOR IS PERIMETER WALLS ONLY

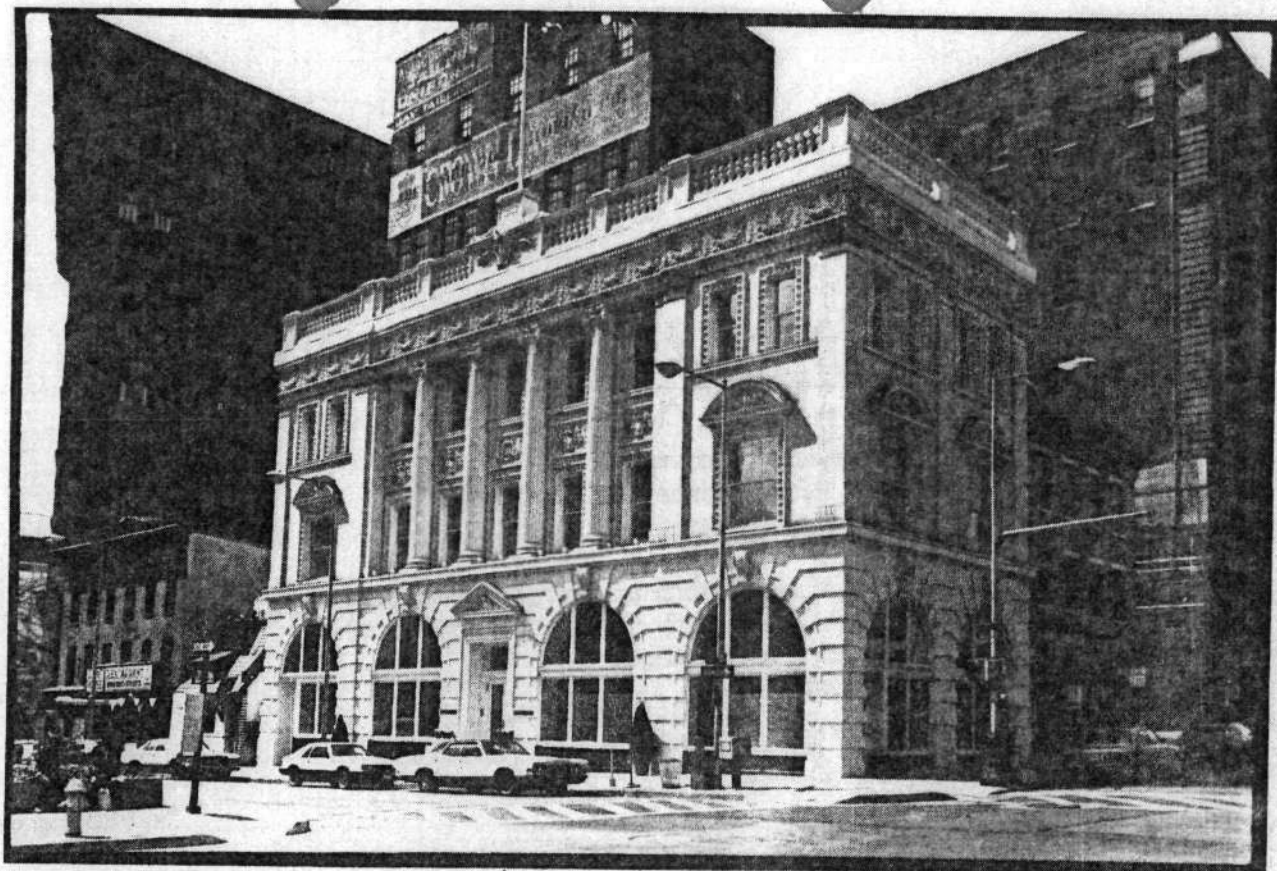
Brewers' Exchange  
20 Park Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

B-4099

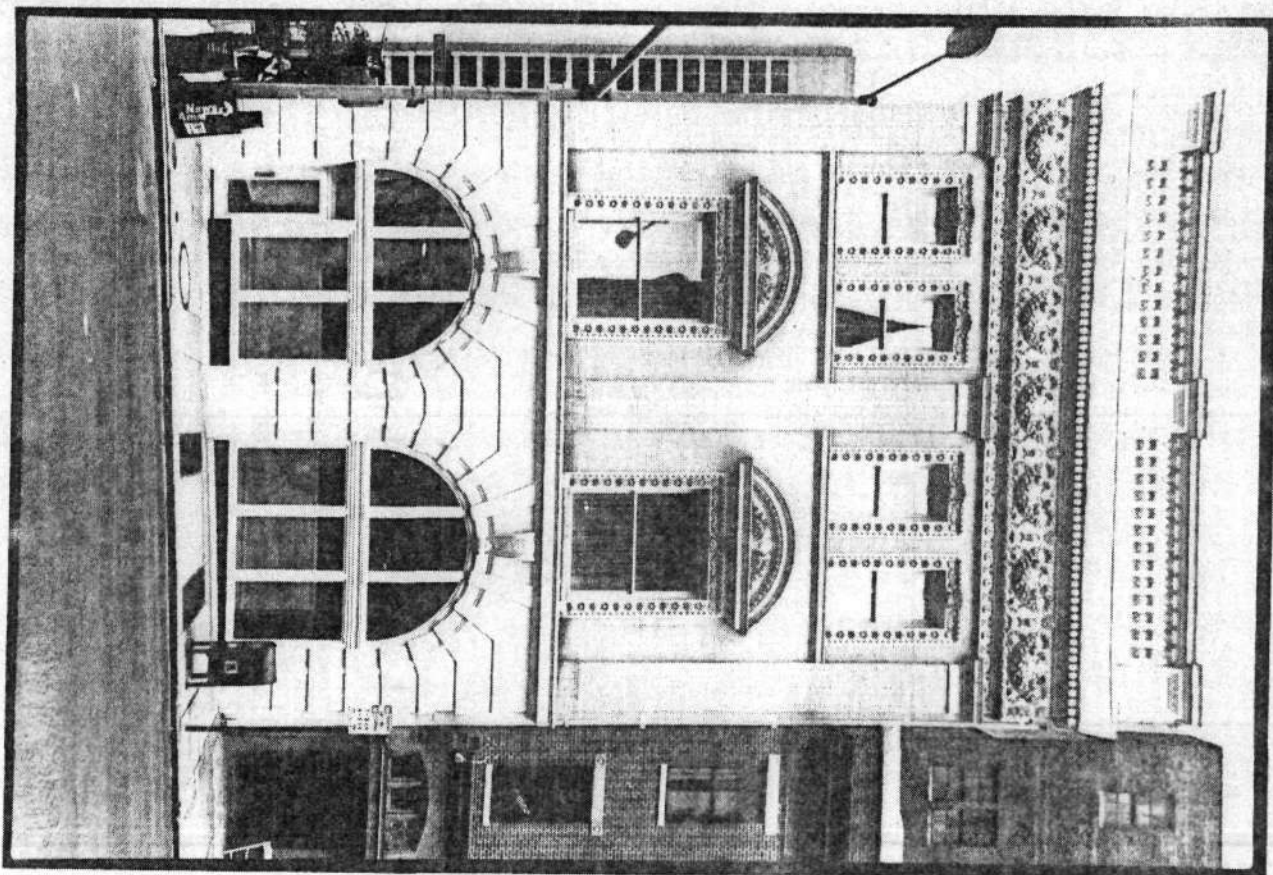
B-4099  
Brewers Exchange  
Baltimore city  
Maryland

18/360440/4350050





1



2

B-4099



## Murdock Development Company

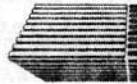
Murdock Place • 20 Park Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

1. Brewers' Exchange
2. 20 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
3. J. Brough Schamp
4. 1983
5. Negative- Murdock Development Company
6. East and north facades, photographer facing southwest.
7. ~~20 of 24~~

1/8

© J. BROUGH SCHAMP  
1984

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1984



## Murdock Development Company

Murdock Place • 20 Park Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

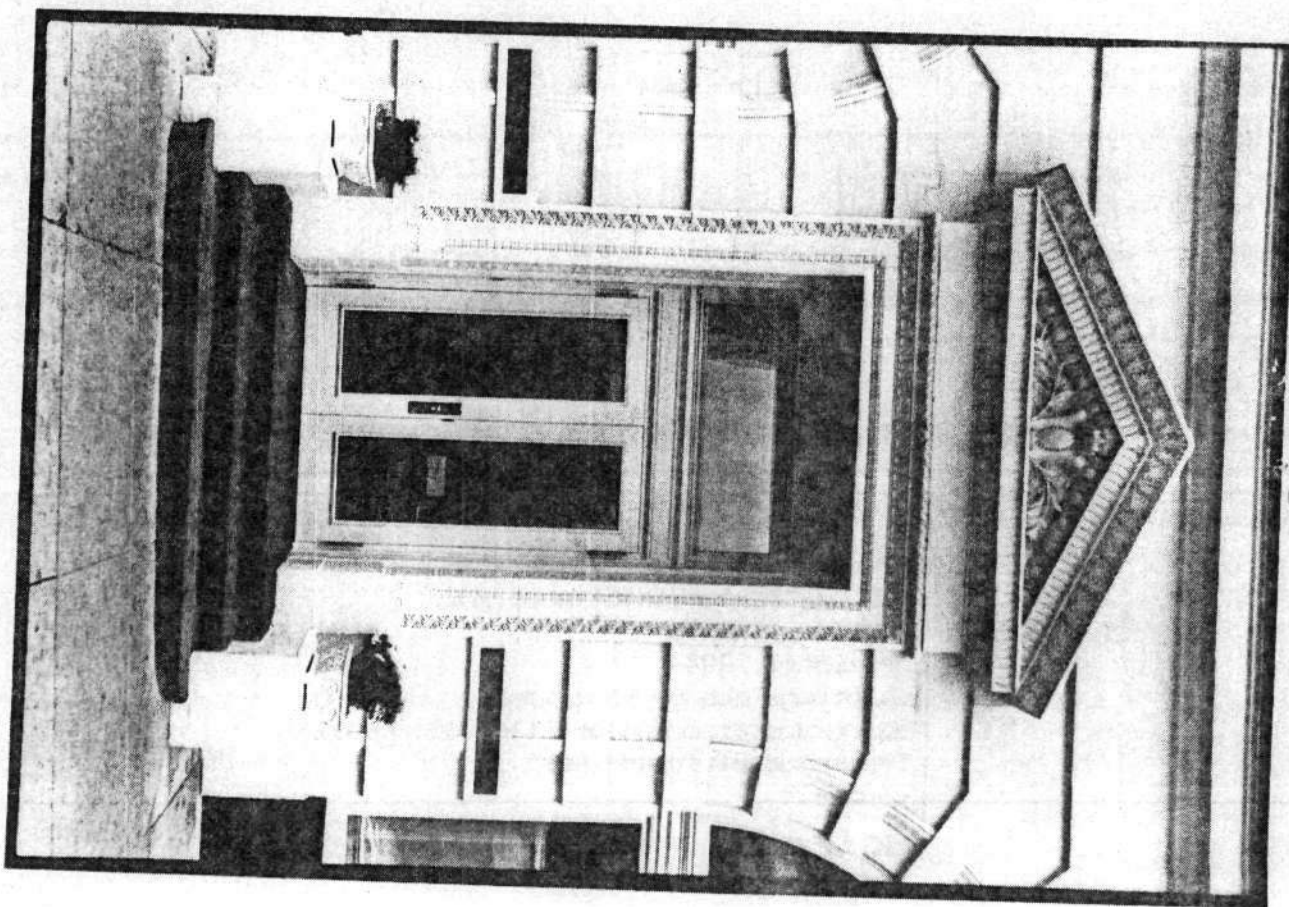
1. Brewers' Exchange
2. 20 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
3. J. Brough Schamp
4. September, 1984
5. Negative - J. Brough Schamp, Baltimore
6. North facade, photographer facing south.
7. ~~21 of 24~~

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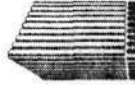


4



3

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## Murdock Development Company

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1. Brewers' Exchange
2. 20 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
3. J. Brough Schamp
4. September, 1984
5. Negative - J. Brough Schamp, Baltimore
6. East facade, main entrance, photographer facing west.
7. ~~24 of 24~~

3/8

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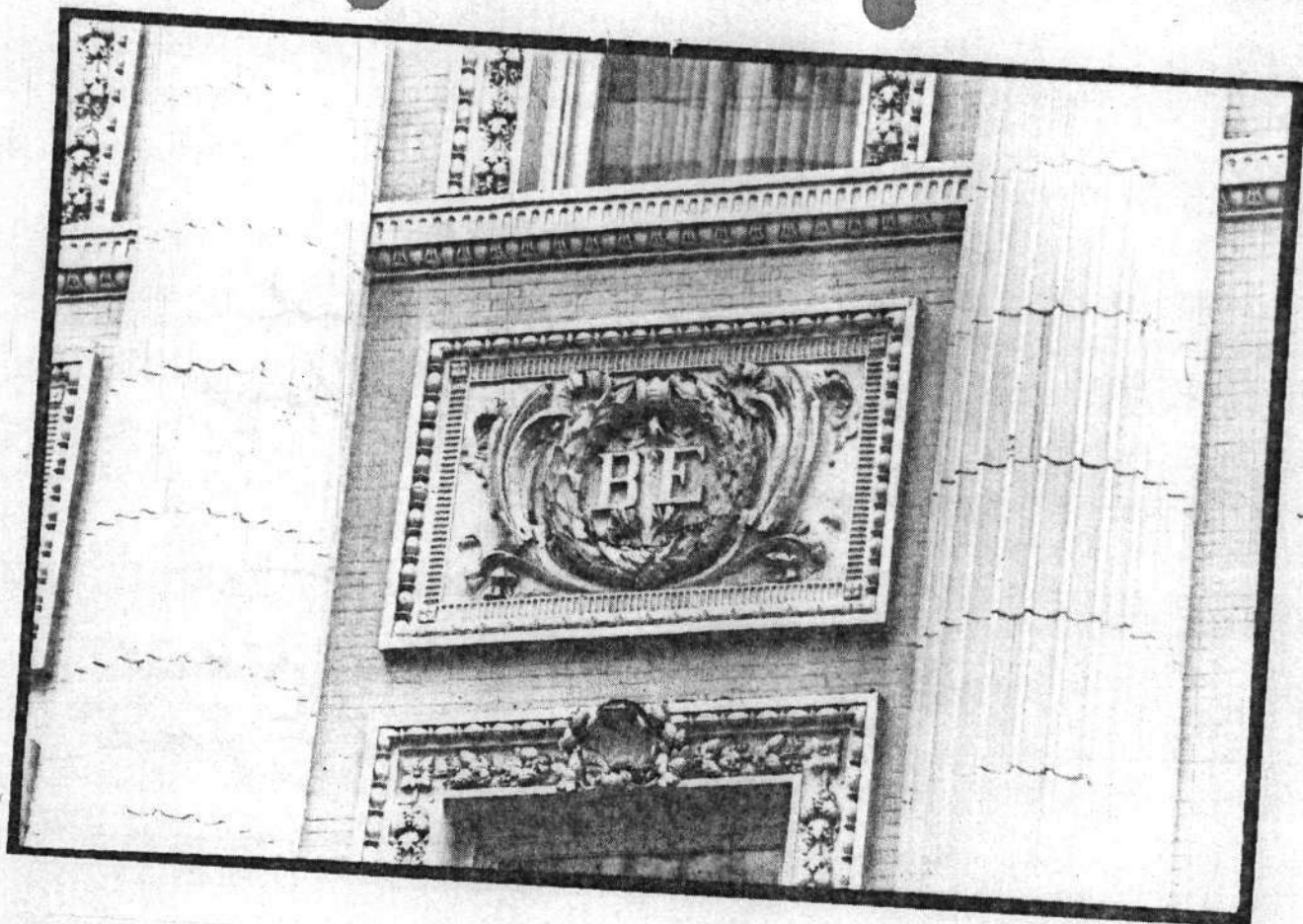
## Murdock Development Company

Murdock Place • 20 Park Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

1. Brewers' Exchange
2. 20 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
3. J. Brough Schamp
4. September, 1984
5. J. Brough Schamp, Baltimore
6. Monogram cartouche and flagpole base, photographer facing west.
7. ~~24 of 24~~

4/8

ROUGH SCHAMP  
1984



5

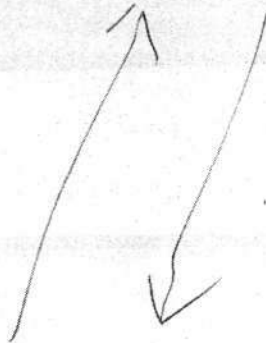


6

B-4099

Brewers Exchange  
Baltimore, Maryland  
photo: J. Brough Schamp  
date: Jan 1985  
neg: Building owner  
1<sup>st</sup> floor interior looking N and  
showing main doors in E facade

E/8



B-4099



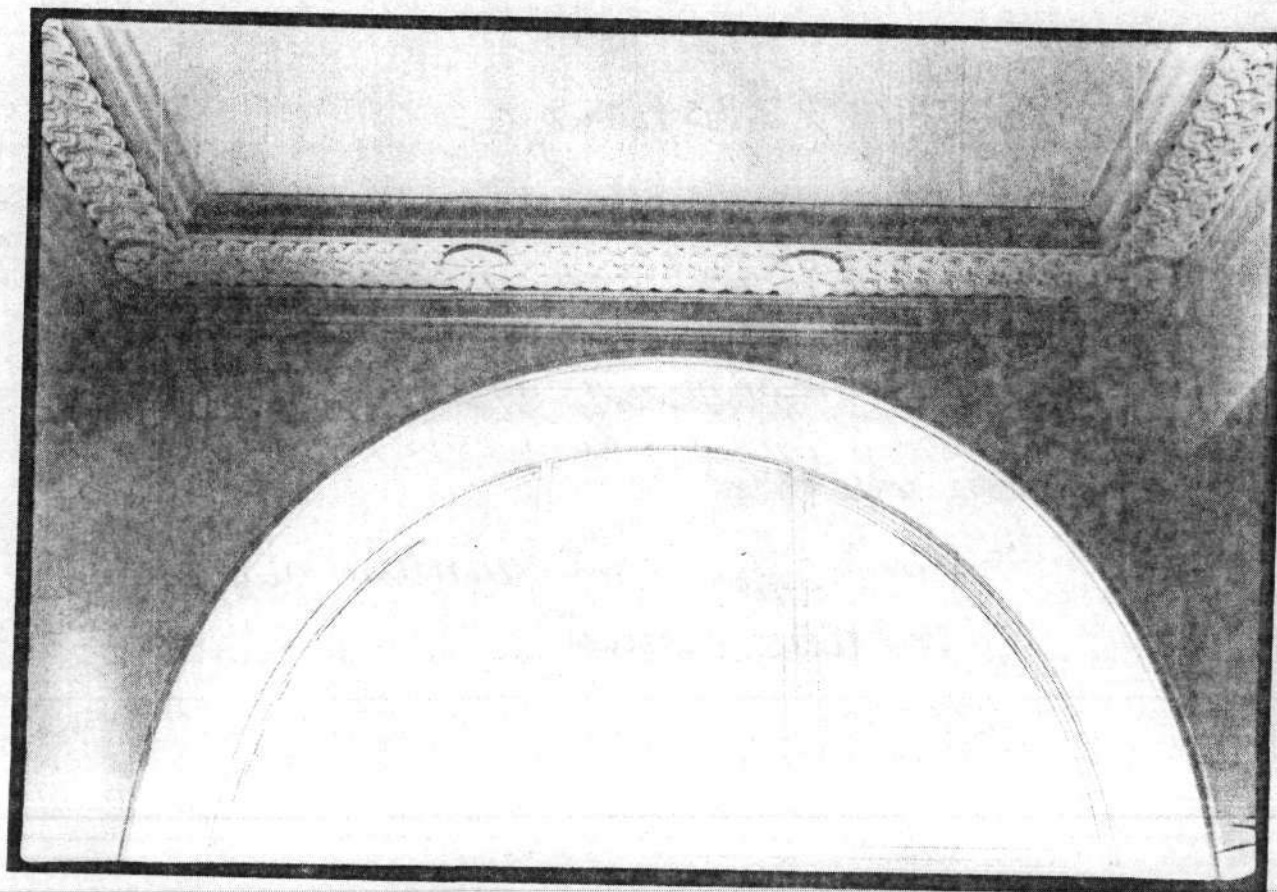
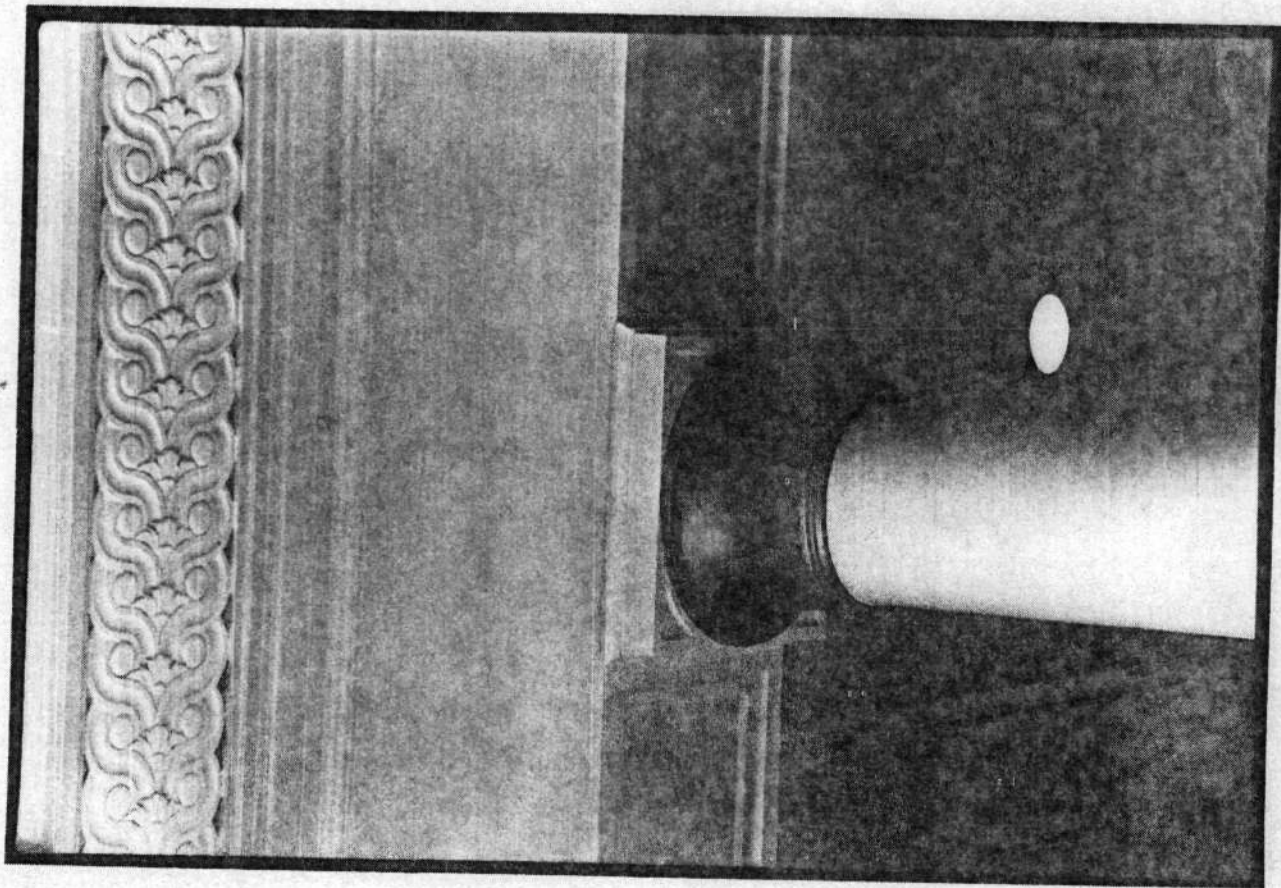
## Murdock Development Company

Murdock Place • 20 Park Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

1. Brewers' Exchange
2. 20 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
3. J. Brough Schamp
4. September, 1984
5. J. Brough Schamp, Baltimore
6. East facade, center bay panel, photographer facing west.
7. ~~23-61-24~~

5/8

I. BROUGH SCHAMP  
1984



Brewers Exchange B-4099  
Baltimore, Maryland  
photo: J. Brough Schamp  
date: Jan 1985  
req: Building owner  
1<sup>st</sup> floor column capital & plaster  
cornice detail  
7/8

Brewers Exchange B-4099  
Baltimore, Maryland  
photo: J. Brough Schamp  
date: January 1985  
req: owner  
1<sup>st</sup> floor upper arch window and plaster  
cornice detail  
8/8

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-4099 633  
MAGI #0423535611

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Mercantile Savings Bank

AND/OR COMMON

Universal Optical Building

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

201-203 W. Fayette Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDSCOMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CITY, TOWN

Room 900

STATE

26 South Calvert St.  
Baltimore, Md. 21202

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This large Beaux-Arts structure is three stories high, seven bays wide on its east side, and two bays wide on its north side. The first story is stone; the upper stories are masonry laid in running bond, and have stone details.

Quoined round arches define the first story bays. These contain (left to right, on the Park Avenue side) double doors and a sheet glass window, one glass door and a sheet glass window, a large sheet glass window, and the chamfered main entrance, which is flanked by sheet glass windows. A classically pedimented double door between the second and third arches is the only aperture not so contained.

The two outer bays of the building are defined by flat pilasters which begin above the first story. The second story of these outer bays contains one large double hung, one-over-one window in a flat arch. These windows (and all upper story windows) are framed by an oak leaf motif; a large, round arched tympanum containing a cartouche flanked by palmettes surmounts them. Egg and dart moulding appears between the tympanum and the hood.

A string course runs between the second and third story windows. Windows of the second and third stories' inner bays (and the outer bays of the third story) are double hung with one-over-one lights. All have ornate frames like those described above, but the have no tympani. The string forms their sills.

In the five central bays, a rectangular panel containing a large cartouche flanked by a foliate motif appears between the second and third story windows. In this section, each bay's second and third windows are separated from the next by fluted columns with Ionic capitals.

Above the capitals runs a strip of rosette-studded moulding, which serves as a border for a swagged frieze directly above. Atop this is a dentiled blank entablature, which in turn supports the balustrade which completes the structure. In the middle of the balustrade is a large block with a cartouche, on which the letter B has been inscribed. This is flanked by palmettes. Atop this is a small block bearing the date of the building (1896).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

B-4099

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Completed in 1896, this Beaux-arts style building was the home of the Mercantile Savings Bank until the early 1930's. Still essentially intact, its scale and the characteristic turn of the century attention to classical detail and ornamentation make this handsome building very noteworthy.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION  
Room 900

DATE

1976

STREET &amp; NUMBER

26 South Calvert St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore, Md. 21202

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

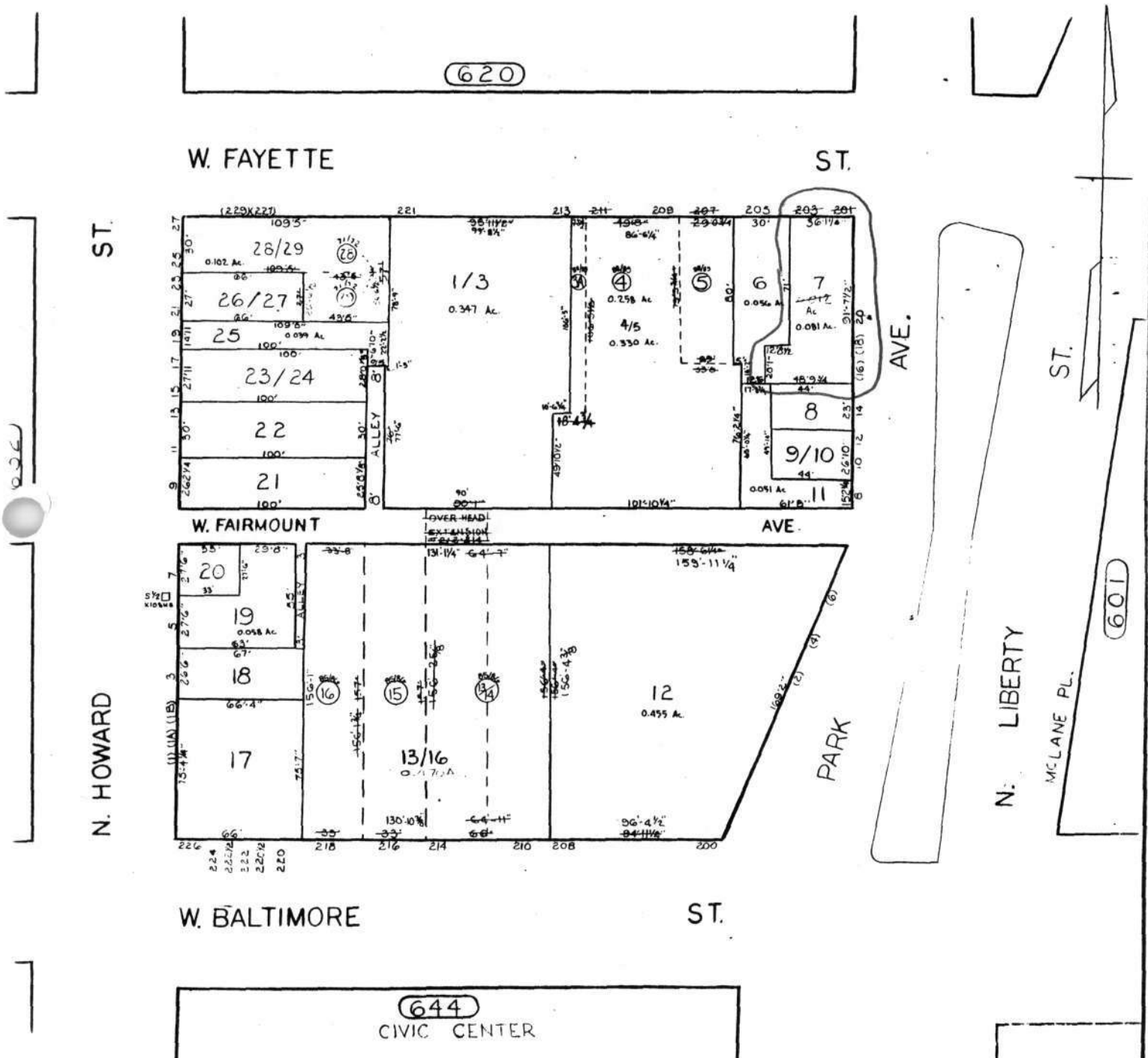
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

# REVISIONS

LOT 28/29 PER PLS.; C.S.H. 409  
 LOT 7 ASSM CHANGED PER LETTER C.S.H. 84-052  
 LOTS 1/3, 4/5, 6/7, 11/12, 19, 25 & 28/29 ASSM CHANGED PER PLS. C.S.H. 81-219  
 LOTS 13/14, 15 & 16 DIM CORR PER DEED, C.S.H. 85-487  
 LOTS 13/14, 15 & 16 CONS'D PER APP. CU. SH. 86-253  
 LOT 3A, 4 & 5 CONS'D PER O.O. f App. C.S.H. 85-467

P 2353  
 B-4099



ED BY P. WAINWRIGHT  
 RED BY P.W.

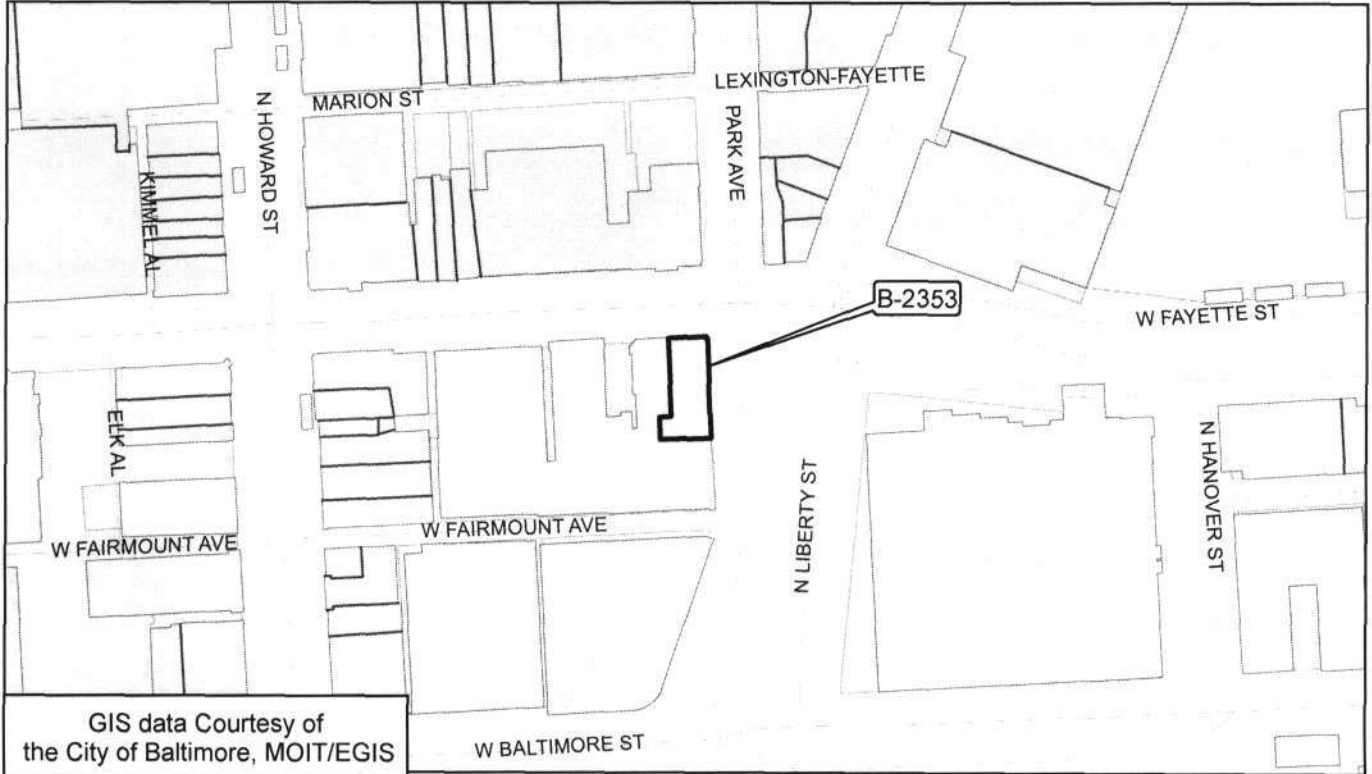
**NOTICE**  
 THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED  
 FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER  
 IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
 PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION  
 WARD 4 SECTION 10  
 BLOCK 633

B-4099

~~B-2353~~

Mercantile Savings Bank  
201-203 W. Fayette Street  
Block 0633, Lot 007  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





201-3 W. Fayette

~~B-2353~~  
B-4099

Neg #18

5/76

P. Sussman

Block 633